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Message Text

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47
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 OMB-01 IO-13 /081 W
---------- 035447
R 170303Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2304
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONGEN HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13949

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UR, CH
SUBJ: SOVIET REACTION TO SCHLESINGER VISIT

1. SOVIET POLCOUNS KOMAROVSKY TOLD EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 16 THAT TREATMENT OF FORMER DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER IN CHINA DESIGNED TO SHOW THAT CHINESE HOSTILITY TOWARD SOVIET UNION WOULD NOT CHANGE DESPITE MAO'S DEATH. FACT THAT PORTION OF TRIP TO REGIONS NEAR USSR HAD BEEN CANCELLED WHEN MAO DIED THEN RESCHEDULED (KOMAROVSKY HAD READ KRAFT IN NEWSWEEK) SHOWED HOW ANXIOUS CHINESE WERE TO MAKE POINT. SPECIAL FIRST-CLASS ARRANGEMENTS FOR SCHLESINGER DELEGATION TO VIEW CHAIRMAN'S BODY ADDED FURTHER EMPHASIS.

2. KOMAROVSKY SAID HE PRIVATELY AGREED WITH ASSESSMENT OF FUTURE SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS PROVIDED BY AMERICAN SCHOLAR ROBERT SCALAPINO TO DIPLOMATS IN TOKYO SEPTEMBER 15 AT QUAKER LUNCH WE BOTH ATTENDED. SCALAPINO HAD SAID THAT ALTERNATIVES FACING CHINESE LEADERSHIP WERE NEITHER WAR WITH SOVS OR ALLIANCE, BUT RATHER LIMITED TACTICAL RAPPROCHEMENT OR CONTINUATION OF HOSTILITY SHORT OF WAR. HE FELT THAT RAPPROCHEMENT POSSIBLE AFTER CHINESE LEADERSHIP SORTED ITSELF OUT BUT THAT CHANCES OF THIS COURSE LESS THAN 50-50.
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HODGSON

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